



## Missouri Department of Natural Resources Energy Center

### MISSOURI ENERGY BULLETIN

May 8, 2003

The Missouri Energy Bulletin is distributed twice a month by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources Energy Center. The Energy Bulletin is a public resource that is made available to state government decision-makers, to any other interested individual upon request and on-line at the Energy Center Internet site.

The Department of Natural Resources, Energy Center thanks each of the following in helping to provide accurate, timely data on fuel supplies and prices: the U.S. Department of Energy's (USDOE) Energy Information Administration (EIA) and Chicago Regional Office; the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO); the Missouri Propane Gas Association (MPGA) and the Propane Education and Research Council (MoPERC); the St. Louis AAA Auto Club; regional state energy offices; and, Missouri's energy retailers.

The Energy Center collects transportation and propane heating fuel prices from various retail providers located throughout the state. To preserve confidentiality, price data are averaged and reported by region. Unless otherwise noted, energy prices and supplies shown throughout this bulletin are from May 5, 2003. Also shown are energy data from a month ago, Apr. 7, 2003, and from a year ago, May 6, 2002.

#### **Transportation Fuels**

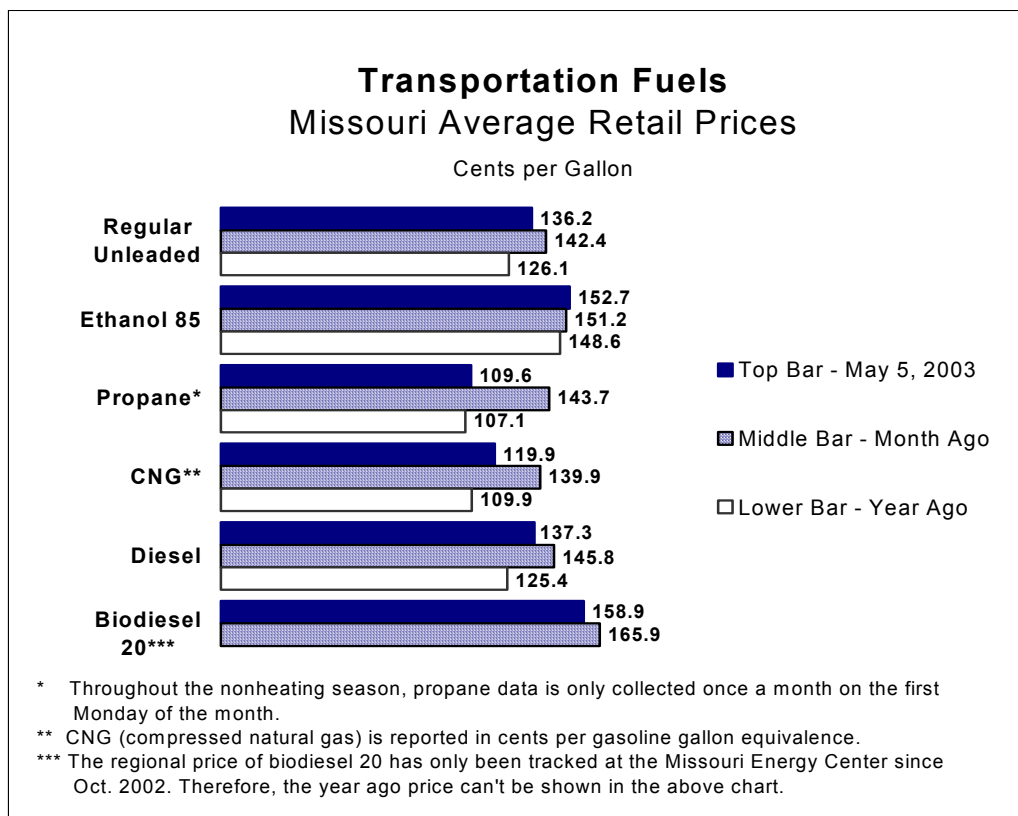
- The average retail price paid for regular unleaded gasoline in **Missouri**, throughout this last month, decreased by 6.2 cents per gallon (4 percent) moving from 142.4 to 136.2 cents per gallon. Throughout this last year, the price paid increased by 10.1 cents per gallon moving from 126.1 to 136.2 cents per gallon, an increase of 8 percent.
- The average retail price paid for regular unleaded gasoline in the **United States**, throughout this last month, decreased 11.7 cents per gallon (7 percent) moving from 163.0 to 151.3 cents per gallon. Throughout this last year, the price paid increased by 11.8 cents per gallon, an increase of 8 percent.

#### **Regular Unleaded Gasoline** Average Retail Prices in the U.S., Midwest, Missouri and Missouri Regions

May 5, 2003 Fuel Data in Cents per Gallon

U.S.	151.3
Midwest	140.6
Missouri	136.2
Central, Mo.	137.9
Kansas City, Mo.	136.5
Northeast, Mo.	141.9
Northwest, Mo.	138.5
St. Louis, Mo.	135.4
Southeast, Mo.	133.2
Southwest, Mo.	134.8

- The average retail price paid for highway diesel fuel in **Missouri**, throughout this last month, decreased by 8.5 cents per gallon (6 percent) moving from 145.8 to 137.3 cents per gallon. Throughout this last year, the price paid increased by 11.9 cents per gallon moving from 125.4 to 137.3 cents per gallon, an increase of 9 percent.
- Total motor gasoline stocks in the **Midwest**, throughout this last month (Apr. 4 to May. 2) were down by 1.8 million barrels (4 percent) moving from 50.1 to 48.3 million barrels. In the **United States**, stocks were up by 5.6 million barrels moving from 202.2 to 207.8 million barrels, an increase of 3 percent.
- Total motor gasoline stocks in the **Midwest**, throughout this last year (May. 3, 2002 to May. 2, 2003), were down by 4.3 million barrels (8 percent) moving from 52.6 to 48.3 million barrels. In the **United States**, stocks were down by 6.3 million barrels moving from 214.1 to 207.8 million barrels, a decrease of 3 percent.
- Daily production of total finished gasoline in the **Midwest**, throughout the week ending May. 2, decreased from 2,064,000 to 1,981,000 barrels. Daily production in the **Gulf Coast** region, a major supply source of gasoline to Missouri, increased from 3,542,000 to 3,652,000 barrels. This compares to year-ago daily production levels of 2,072,000 barrels in the **Midwest** and 3,682,000 barrels in the **Gulf Coast**.

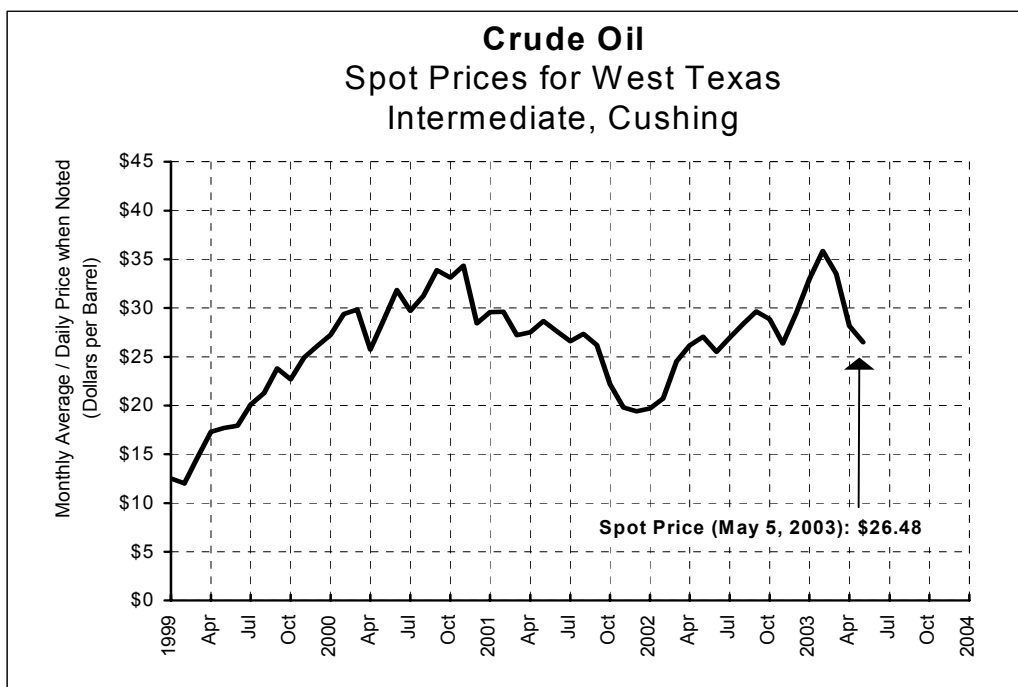


- Refinery runs are at 95.2 percent, up 0.9 percent from the previous week with gasoline production at 8.5 million barrels per day.

- Total U.S. gasoline inventories increased by 2.2 million barrels – about 1 million gallons of imported gasoline continues to arrive in the U.S. daily. Implied demand for gasoline increased from about 8.4 million barrels per day to 8.8 million barrels.

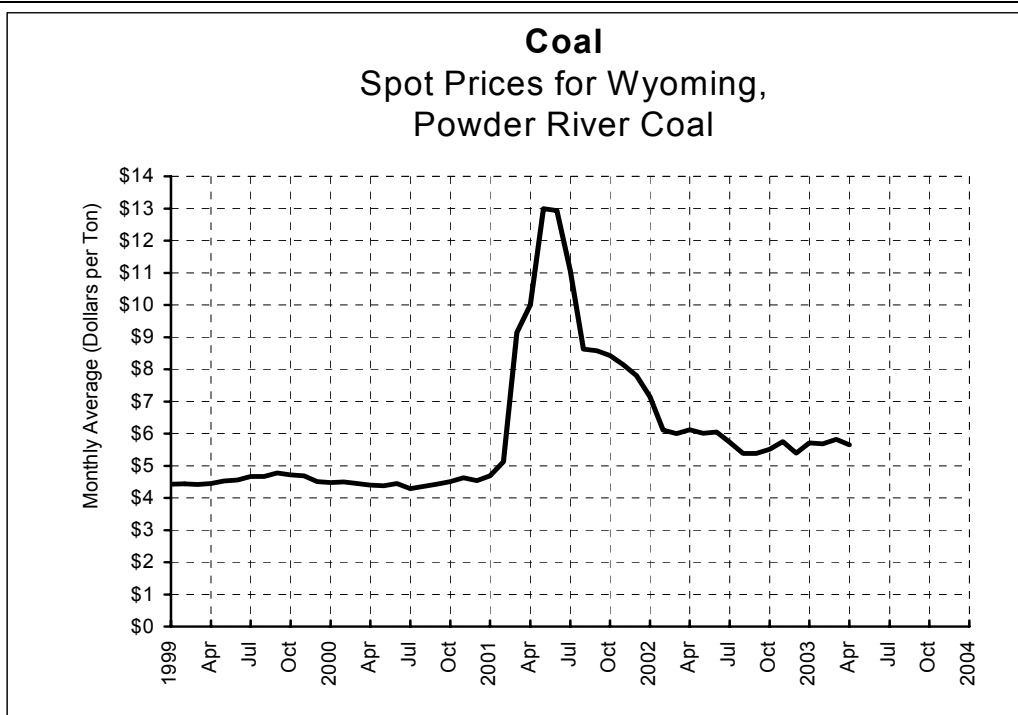
### Crude Oil

- The spot price of crude oil (West Texas Intermediate - Cushing), throughout this last month, decreased by 1.50 dollars per barrel (5 percent) moving from 27.98 to 26.48 dollars per barrel. Throughout this last year, the spot price increased by 0.35 dollars per barrel moving from 26.13 to 26.48 dollars per barrel, an increase of 1 percent. (Source: *Wall Street Journal*, May 6, 2003)
- U.S. commercial crude oil inventories (excluding those in the Strategic Petroleum Reserve) decreased by 800,000 barrels last week, but are still 32.8 million barrels or about 10 percent less than last year at this time. U.S. crude oil inventories currently stand at 287.2 million barrels.



### Coal

- Coal-fired electric power plants located in Missouri produced 84 percent of all electric power used throughout the state in 2001. Of all coal delivered to Missouri during 2000, about 96 percent came from Wyoming.
- The monthly average price paid for Wyoming, Powder River coal, throughout this last month (Mar. to Apr.), decreased by 0.17 dollars (3 percent) moving from 5.82 to 5.65 dollars per ton. Throughout this last year (Apr. 2002 to Apr. 2003), the average price paid decreased by 0.47 dollars moving from 6.12 to 5.65 dollars per ton, a decrease of 8 percent. (Source: *Wyoming Insight*, Apr. 25, 2003)



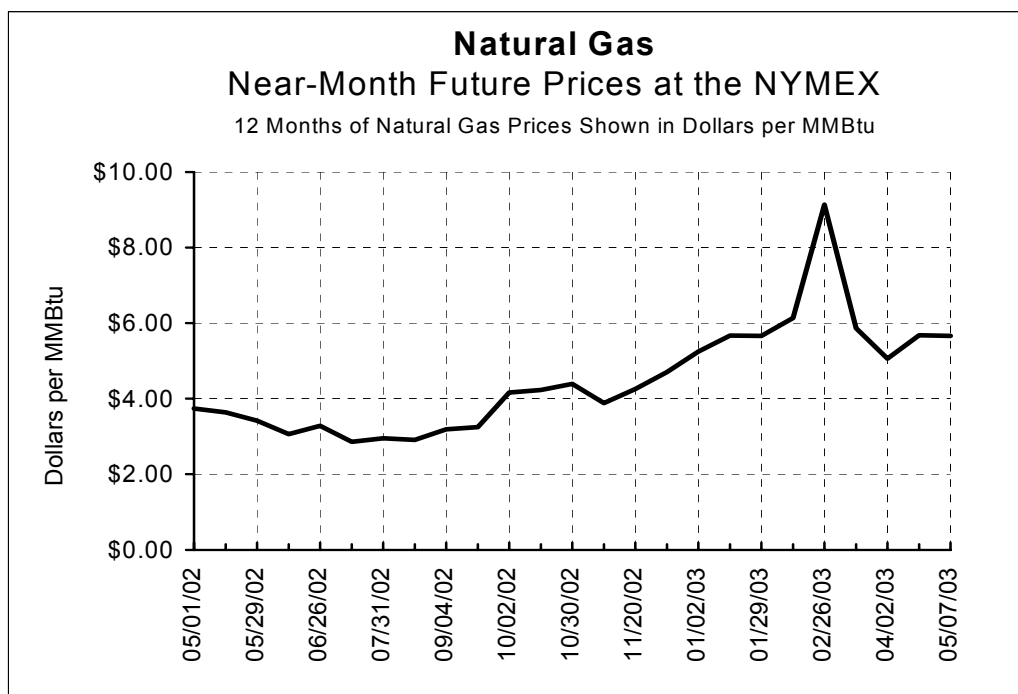
- U.S. DOE estimates that U.S. coal production increased by 0.3 million short tons (mst) or 1.5 percent from 20.2 mst to 20.5 mst. Year-to-date production stands at 357 mst, or 7.1 percent behind last year's production at this time.

### Heating Fuels

Heating fuels tracked in the Missouri Energy Bulletin include natural gas, propane and residential heating oil. All heating fuel prices and supplies shown from October through March are updated in every new release of the bulletin. From April through September, propane and heating oil prices and supplies are either not available or revised once a month.

### Natural Gas

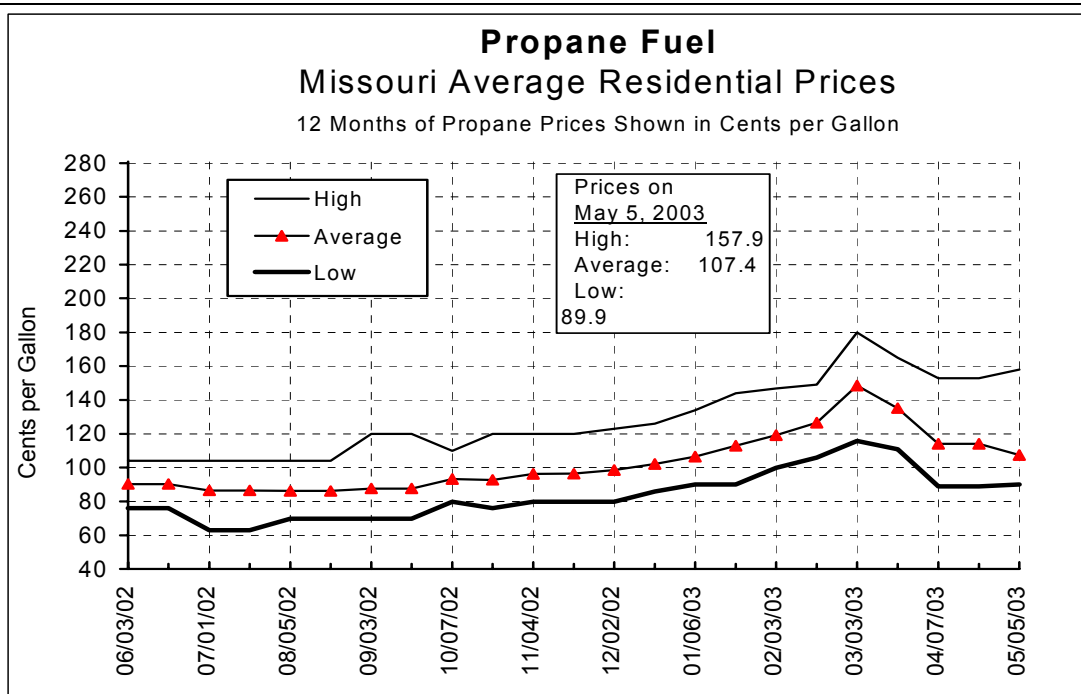
- The spot price for natural gas at the Henry Hub, throughout this last month, increased by 0.29 dollars per MMBtu (6 percent) moving from 5.07 to 5.36 dollars per MMBtu. Throughout this last year, the price paid increased by 1.74 dollars per MMBtu moving from 3.62 to 5.36 dollars per MMBtu, an increase of 48 percent. (Source: *Wall Street Journal*, May 7, 2003)
- The near-month contract settlement price paid for natural gas futures at the NYMEX, throughout this last month (Apr. 2 to May 7), increased by 0.60 dollars per MMBtu (12 percent) moving from 5.07 to 5.66 dollars per MMBtu. Throughout this last year (May 1, 2002 to May 7, 2003), the price paid increased by 1.93 dollars per MMBtu moving from 3.74 to 5.66 dollars per MMBtu, an increase of 52 percent.
- Working gas in storage was 821 Bcf as of May 2, according to EIA's *Weekly Natural Gas Storage Report*, resulting in implied net injections totaling 80 Bcf. Total implied net injections were 29 percent greater than the 5-year average of 62 Bcf and were the second largest for this week in the 9-year span of EIA weekly storage data.



- Over half of the net injections occurred in the East Consuming region, where implied net injections exceeded the 5-year (1998-2002) average for the week by just over 32 percent and were the largest recorded for this week. The unseasonably warm temperatures (relative to normal) experienced in much of the nation during the report week sharply curtailed space heating demand in the high gas-consuming Midwest and Northeast regions of the nation, allowing more gas for storage refill.

### **Propane**

- Propane stocks in the **United States**, throughout this last month (Apr. 4 to May 2), were up by 2.4 million barrels moving from 21.1 to 23.5 million barrels, an increase of 11 percent. In the **Midwest**, stocks were up by 1.5 million barrels (26 percent) moving from 5.9 to 7.4 million barrels.
- Propane stocks in the **United States**, throughout this last year (Apr. 30, 2002 to May. 2, 2003), were down by 22.3 million barrels (49 percent) moving from 45.8 to 23.5 million barrels. In the **Midwest**, stocks were down by 8.8 million barrels moving from 16.1 to 7.4 million barrels, a decrease of 54 percent.
- Despite a reasonably strong 1.6-million-barrel weekly build for the week ending May 2, U.S. stockholders of propane fell short of reaching the 5-year average inventory build during April 2003. Inventories gained a rather lackluster 2.4 million barrels during April, ending the week of May 2, 2003 at an estimated 23.5 million barrels, the lowest level for this time of year since 1970.



- The average stockbuild for April over the most recent 5-year period totaled about 5.6 million barrels, with end-of-month inventories ranging from a low of 25.6 million barrels to a high of 45.9 million barrels. Although April inventories have in past years posted lower monthly builds, with some years even showing stockdraws, the propane inventory situation this year is particularly pressing since inventories are beginning the stockbuilding season from the lowest level since 1970.

### Residential Heating Oil

- Residential heating oil stocks in the **Midwest**, throughout this last month (Apr. 4 to May 2), remained unchanged at 7.6 million barrels. In the **United States**, stocks were down by 3.2 million barrels (9 percent) moving from 35.6 to 32.4 million barrels.
- Residential heating oil stocks in the **Midwest**, throughout this last year (May 3, 2002 to May 2, 2003), were down by 0.2 million barrels (3 percent) moving from 7.8 to 7.6 million barrels. In the **United States**, stocks were down by 17.2 million barrels (35 percent) moving from 49.6 to 32.4 million barrels.
- DOE reported a distillate build of 1.4 million barrels, placing U.S. inventories at 97.3 million barrels, a year-to-year deficit of 24.2 million barrels.